

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0047] beginning at page 11, line 24 with the following amended paragraph:

A voiceprint as described above is a collection of discrete rational numbers that represents unique vocal biometric features of a speaker. A speaker can be recognized by comparing such rational numbers obtained from the voice of the speaker to a set of rational numbers obtained from a known speaker. This comparison between two sets of discrete rational numbers avoids metric computation of distances between spectral features and the inherent uncertainties in matching different spectral features based on some predetermined threshold. In addition, the sizes of digital files for such rational numbers are relatively small when compared to the usually large voice data banks for the spectral features in spectral analysis methods. As a result, the voiceprint of a person may be stored as digital codes in various portable storage devices, such as magnetic ~~stripes~~strips on credit cards, identification cards (e.g., driver licenses) and bank cards, bar codes printed on various surfaces such as printed documents (e.g., passports and driver licenses) and ID cards[[]], small electronic memory devices, and others. A person can conveniently carry the voiceprint and use the voiceprint for identification, verification and other purposes.